



GREATER NEW YORK CONFERENCE
of Seventh-day Adventists®



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church planting




SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST CHURCH



**PLANT A CHURCH
REAP THE HARVEST**



GNYC Personal Ministries Department

The Mighty Movement GNYC

Strategic planning for the planting of 100
new churches from 2016 - 2020 in the
Greater New York Conference of SDA



VISION STATEMENT

**Every Disciple Making a Disciple
and Every Church Planting a Church**



INTRODUCTION

Benjamin Franklin rightly said, “If you fail to plan, you plan to fail.” And The Bible clearly teaches, “Where there’s no vision, the people will perish” (Proverbs 29:18) so strategic planning is critical to success. Planning is so vital that even the Mastermind of the universe works with a time sensitive plan (1 Peter 1:20; Galatians 4:4).

100 new churches in 5 years is something that has never been accomplished in the NAD. To achieve such a courageous goal the GNYC must lean fully on God’s Spirit and make church planting part of its’ core DNA. Leaders must inspire the workers and laity to accept God’s vision of planting to help reach His lost children. Churches must see God’s design in parenting new churches as the priesthood of all believers is reemphasize by identifying, equipping, and encouraging gifted lay members to start new congregations! Pastors will need encouragement and direction. And all these must be done prayerfully, strategically, and intentionally.

NY is rapidly changing and we need to press together now! Every church should be able to plant at least one other church over the next five years. We also need a clear path to move forward because we have such a large and diverse Conference. “If the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for the battle? (1 Corinthians 14:8).



THE MIGHTY MOVEMENT GNYC PROJECT 100

The Mighty Movement GNYC is a vision inspired in the book of Revelation 18:1 where it's written: "After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory." And also the statement made by Ellen G. White in 1910 that declares:



“There is no change in the messages that God has sent in the past. The work in the cities is the essential work for this time. When the cities are worked as God would have them, the result will be the setting in operation of a mighty movement such as we have not yet witnessed.”¹

The three key phases are:

2015

The first fruits meaning 10 new churches planted in 2015

2016 – 2020

Project 100 meaning 100 new churches planted by 2020

2020 – Beyond

A culture of multiplication

¹ Ellen G. White, *Medical Ministry*, 304

THIS PLAN LEANS ON THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

1. Jesus is coming soon and His Church in NY must make greater efforts to fulfill the Great Commission.
2. The church planting component will play a key roll in the Loud Cry prophesied in Revelation 18:1. "Adventism began as a church-planting movement and needs to regain that focus."²
3. The continual planting of new congregations is the most productive evangelistic strategy for the growth of the body of Christ.³
4. 100 churches is only another step on the way of multiplying disciples, leaders and churches, the authentic goal is a 'culture of multiplication' that emulates the early church.
5. Church is people called and sent by the Lord; people committed to God's mission! Not a building, not a religious organization, not an ecclesiastical institution, not a denomination, but the people of God.⁴ As Ralph More declares: "Churches are harvest points."⁵
6. Church health is measured by its sending capacity not its sitting capacity.⁶
7. All churches are big in the eyes of God as long as they fulfill the Divine Commission.
8. Small Groups and Sabbath School Discipleship Units are key in the church planting process.
9. "NY is a symbol⁷ and God will lead us to fulfill our privilege 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty." (Zechariah 4:6)
10. Intentionality leads to effectiveness and accountability to efficiency.⁸

² Russel Burriel

³ "Planting new churches is the most effective evangelistic methodology known under heaven."
Peter Wagner

⁴ See Rex Edward, *Every Believer the Church*, p.13

⁵ See *How to multiply your church* by Ralph More

⁶ Rick Warren

⁷ See, Ellen G. White, *Important Testimony*, p. 11

⁸ "Efficiency is doing the things right. Effectiveness is doing the right things" Peter Drucker



BIBLICAL FOUNDATION

Mathew 28: 18-20

¹⁸Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Matthew 9:37-38

Then He said to His disciples, “the harvest is truly plenteous but the laborers are few, therefore pray the Lord of harvest to send laborers into His harvest.”

Acts 9:31

³¹Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.

Acts 16:5

⁵So the churches were strengthened in the faith and grew daily in numbers

Romans 10:14 – 15

¹⁴How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? ¹⁵And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

Romans 15:21

Rather, as it is written: “Those who were not told about him will see, and those who have not heard will understand.”

Romans 16:3 - 5

³Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my co-workers in Christ Jesus. ⁴They risked their lives for me. Not only I but also all the churches of the Gentiles are grateful to them. ⁵Greet also the church that meets at their house.”

Titus 1:5

⁵The reason I left you in Crete was that you might put in order what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you.



PLANT A CHURCH

SPIRIT OF PROPHECY FOUNDATION

1. “Upon all who believe, God has placed the burden of raising up churches.”⁹
2. “We should seek in every place to raise up a company of believers who will unite with us in uplifting the standard of truth, and working for rich and poor. Then as churches are established, there will be an increase of helpers to labor for the destitute and the outcast.”¹⁰
3. “From country to country and from city to city Paul went, preaching of Christ and establishing churches. Wherever he could find a hearing, he labored to counterwork error and to turn the feet of men and women into the path of right. Those who by his labors in any place were led to accept Christ, he organized into a church. No matter how few in number they might be, this was done. And Paul did not forget the churches thus established. However small a church might be, it was the object of his care and interest.”¹¹
4. “I saw jets of light shining from cities and villages, and from the high places and the low places of the earth. God’s word was obeyed, and as a result there were memorials for Him in every city and village. His truth was proclaimed throughout the world.”¹²
5. “We shall not hover over the churches but press into new territory and raise the standard in places where the message has not been proclaimed.”¹³
6. “If the ministers would get out of the way, if they would go forth into new fields, the members would be obliged to bear responsibilities, and their capabilities would increase by use.”¹⁴

⁹ Ellen G. White *Medical Ministry*, 315

¹⁰ Ellen G. White, *Manuscript 3, 1899 (Gospel Workers)*, 436

¹¹ Ellen G. White, *The Story of Redemption*, chapter 42, p. 310

¹² Ellen G. White, *Testimonies*, vol. 9, page 28-29

¹³ Ellen G. White, *Manuscript Releases Volume Seventeen [Nos. 1236-1300]*, Page 124

¹⁴ Ellen G. White, *Letter 56, 1901*

4 STRATEGIC GOALS

1. Ingrain church planting in the DNA of the GNYC as a vital evangelism strategy – goal focused on our fellow brothers and sisters.
2. Invite every pastor and church board to identify specifics unreached groups or areas and commit according to their possibilities to plant at least one new church within the next five years – goal focused on the unchurched



3. Develop a strong team of Voluntary Church Planters (VCPs) to support the GNYC pastors and leadership in this vision – goal focused on the leadership
4. Support GNYC Ministries in the launching and maturing of these new mission groups as they grow into companies and churches that plant more churches – goal focused on the multiplication process.¹⁵

¹⁵ *Putting the new wine in the new wineskins*



01 Ingrain church planting in the DNA of the GNYC members through:

- **Annual SEEDS conference¹⁶**

- # Add church planting as well as church growth tracts to attract larger crowds
- # Follow up immediately with those that make a decision to plant a church at each SEEDS conference

- **Camp meetings**

- # 30-45 minutes presentation and testimonies in the main session
- # Classes during camp meeting to cast the vision for church planting and identify and equipping potential Voluntary Church Planters
- # Present the vision of youth becoming church planters

- **Worker's meetings**

- # 15-30 minute presentation and testimonies at all workers meetings.

- **Evangelism Strategic Committee and Executive Committee**

- # Give a report about the progress of this goal to reach 100 new churches plants each time the Evangelism Strategic Committee meets, and update the Executive Committee as required by the Administration

¹⁶ The first was on November 2014, about 400 attendees; the second is scheduled for March 11 and 12, 2016

- **Add a tab to the GNYC website about church planting**
- **Inform the entire constituency about the successful launch of each new church plant and all those that move to church status**
- **Enhance the Coaching Program and the Mentorship Program for pastors and Voluntary Church Planters**
- **Reinforce Coaching and Assessment Programs**

- # Make use of the Elder Questionnaire, Disc Profile or the Myers & Briggs Personalities Types and APEST based on Ephesians 4:11 to assess the church planters

- # Make use of the platform Missioninsite to assess the community

- # Create the International GNYC team of Coaches and Mentors of Church Planters.

- **Invite every Ethnic Ministry to set aside a specific amount of money to support each of its church planting projects**
- **Request a special support from the AU, NAD, and the GC**
- **Partner with the Planned Giving Department to identify and access other sources of funds to be used in reaching out the minorities in NY through church planting.**
- **Partners with others ministries to speed the dissemination of the vision.**





02 Invite every pastor and church board to identify specific unreached groups or areas and commit according to their possibilities to plant at least one new church within the next five years.

- Letters sent to every pastor, elders and church board
- Visit key churches and broadcast the vision in every major event of the GNYC
- Use demographic research tools to identify potential locations to start new congregations
- Identify in the NY State map GNYC churches and the potential places to start a new congregation
- Create a slide and video presentation, handouts, and promotional materials for pastors to use in their churches to cast the vision for church planting.
- Invite qualifying churches to establish 2nd generation and bilingual church plants:

Work with the various language groups in GNYC to see the potential to establish 2nd generation church plants. The purpose will be to keep their children and grandchildren engaged in church while holding onto their cultural heritage.

- **Identify cultures we have not reached in GNYC**

- # Find newspapers, radio programs, stores, and/or restaurants that serve and are in the language of cultures not currently reached by GNYC
- # Contact Adventist churches, conferences, unions, and divisions to see if they have connections to Adventists in GNYC
- # Find interpreters
- # Build a system to train these groups how to reach their communities
- # Establish welcome teams for those immigrating or moving to GNYC area.

- Invite specific churches to plant or to sponsor a new church in targeted locations.
- Identify church members of GNYC who are part of cultures present in NY but still unreached by GNYC





03 Develop a strong team of Voluntary Church Planters (VCPs) to support the GNYC pastors and leadership in this vision.

Voluntary Church Planters:

- **Look for 70 leaders and entrepreneurs in our churches who are supportive of the GNYC church planting vision to be trained as Voluntary Church Planters. They should:**

- # Have a strong walk with God
- # Agree with and live by SDA doctrines
- # Be influencers in their cultural group
- # Have leadership skills



- **VCPs will receive a refund per month up to US\$ 400.00 To qualify they must:**

- # Be appointed by the appropriate committee at GNYC
- # Maintain a strong relationship with Jesus
- # Meet the biblical requirements of elders
- # Support all decisions and directives of GNYC
- # Be the VCP of a congregation that meets GNYC's definition of a mission group a company or church
- # Attend an annual retreat for VCPs
- # Attend the annual SEEDS conference of GNYC
- # Meet regularly with their GNYC coach pastor

- **Each VCP must have planted or participated in planting the church that he or she directs.**
- **VCPs will be trained and sign an agreement that GNYC has authority over any groups or churches they lead and can make leadership changes at any time they deem prudent.**
- **No VCP will lead their church for more than five years.**
- **Every VCP must start a new congregation at least every four years.**

- VCPs program is not a way to pursue immigration status in the USA
- VCPs program is not a back door for pursuing denominational employment.
- VCPs will be resourced with books, blogs, videos and other tools to educate them on successful church planting.
- Each VCP must have a GNYC pastor coach to meet in person or Skype at least once per month.
- Each VCP must go through the Church Planting Assessment Process and have a Coach Assigned for at least six month.
- Every VCP should be a student or graduate of the Bible Institute/Permanent Institute of Missional Training (Spanish).

Training will include reading, and assignments but will primarily focus on hands-on, on-the-job training

Example: "Are You Called to Start New Churches?" and, "Equipping Church Members to Start a New Church," and, "Steps for Your Church to Give Birth to a New Church Plant."

- No VCPs will serve as treasurer of the new church or be involved in the management of money belonging to the members, the Church or the Conference.

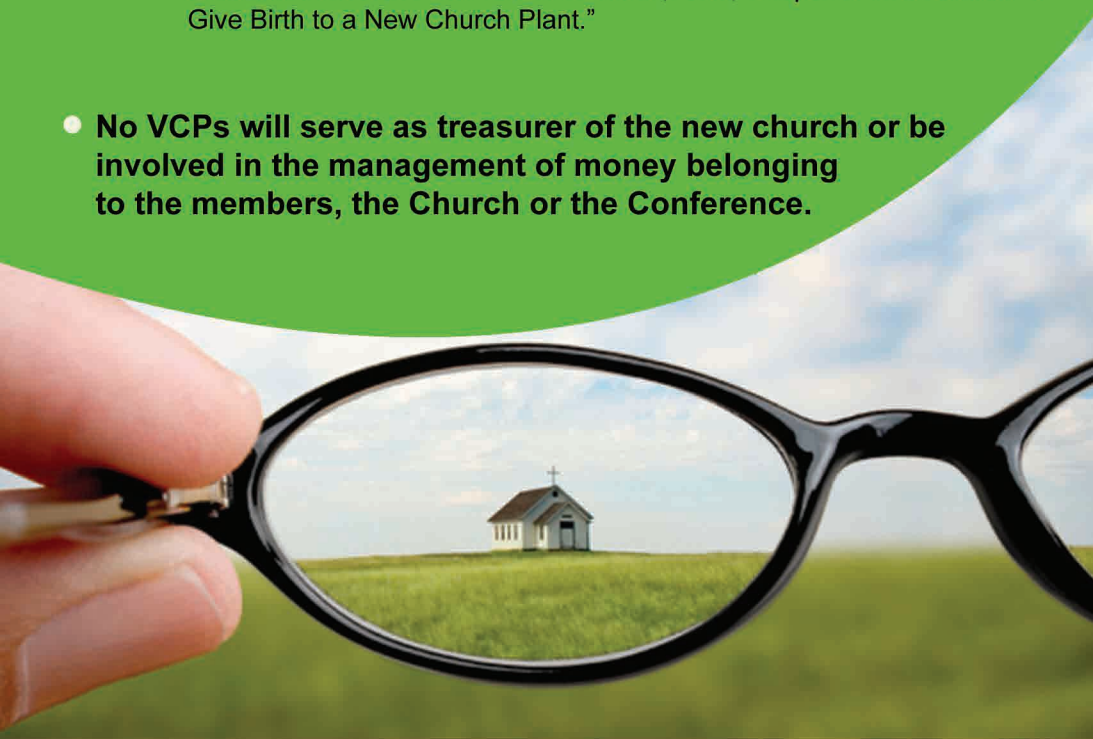


- The Personal Ministries and Sabbath School Director along with the Strategic Evangelism Committee chairman will be the responsible to oversee the *Mighty Movement GNYC - Project 100 and the VCPs*.

Two GNYC pastors, an English speaker and a Hispanic speaker, will be appointed as church planting associates to help run the vision.

Pastors Church Planters:

- Continue to partner with the Ethnic Ministries to financially sponsor pastors involved in planting to the annual Exponential Conference and the pre conference session of Church Planter's Exchange in FL
- Provide coaching and mentorship to GNYC pastors wanting to plant a new church. These sessions could be in person and/or Skype
- Offer one annually church planting training in addition to SEEDS
- Develop cohorts of pastors planting around the same time frame
- Resource these pastors with books, blogs, videos and other tools to educate them on successful church planting.





04 Support GNYC Ministries in the launching and maturing of these new mission groups as they grow into companies and churches that plant more churches.

- Ingrain church planting in the DNA of every new mission group as a path to create a culture of multiplication.
- Support every mission group to become a company within two years and a church within four years.
- Every mission group will be assessed with the NCD tools within the first year.
- Mission Groups should be endorsed by one of the Ethnic Ministries and voted by ADCOM.

A minimum of 15 committed people is required for a new mission group to be recognized by GNYC

The core team of the new mission group should be assessed by the corresponding Ministry with the support of the GNYC Personal Ministry and Sabbath School Departments

Every new Mission Group should have core values and a mission plan

Every New Mission Group should utilize small groups

Every New Mission Group should have a sponsoring mother church

Assessment, coaching and mentoring will be key components to establish and grow these churches.

- A directory of all of our Mission Groups should be made and a strategy employed to ensure they receive pertinent and useful information regularly from the Conference.
- It is suggested that Treasury reinforce the protocols for tithing and offering in these New Congregations.
- Procedures and paper work will be prepared to track through the Ethnic Ministries the progress of each one of these new congregations.





church planting



OUTCOME FOR 2020

By the Grace of God we will have:

A revived GNYC focused in a culture of multiplication of disciples, leaders and churches.

In this context we will have 100 new congregations actively involved in planting other congregations, 70 Voluntary Church Planters, and at least US\$ 3,000,000.00¹⁷ more in tithes and offerings

¹⁷ An average of US\$ 1,250 per church per month

KEY ACTION STEPS FOR 2016

1. Twenty places will be identified in the NY map by March 12. Twenty New Churches should be planted, by the grace of God, in 2016.¹⁸
2. Each one of these 20 New Churches will receive US\$ 5,000 to help with the rental costs. This will required a budget of US\$ 100,000.00.
3. Every Ministry is invited to match the US\$ 5,000 assigned by the Conference according to their possibilities.
4. Twenty Voluntary Church Planters will be recruited to make the first 30 projects sustainable (2015 - 2016). This will required a budget of US\$ 96,000.00.
5. A special budget should be agreed for the church planting activities in 2016 – Year of Church Planting.
6. Our 2016 SEEDs conference will be on March 10 – 12.
7. Every New Church Plant should be self-sustaining in one year from its opening.
8. Churches planted in 2015 will be evaluated with the NCD tools and advice will be given.
9. Create the International GNYC team of Coaches and Mentors of Church Planters by February 2016.
10. A video promoting the GNYC church planting movement should be ready for the Camp Meeting season.
11. Three Evangelism/Church Planting Initiatives will be put together along with GC Departmental leaders.

The 2016 church planting activities are listed in the Personal Ministries and Sabbath School Calendar.

¹⁸ The 10 churches plated in 2015 will be considered as the first fruits of the church planting movement, but the 100 will start in 2016.